

Amendments to the Claims:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A personal audio system comprising:

a remotely controllable device,

a first controller for remotely controlling the device by sending a first control signal to the device,

a second controller for remotely controlling the device by sending a second control signal to the device, wherein:

each of the first controller and the second controller includes an outer surface with a touch-sensitive area, and is configured to:

be substantially worn in or by a human ear,

detect a touching of the touch-sensitive area, and

send the corresponding control signal to control one or more functions

of the personal audio system based on the touching; ~~and~~

at least one of the one or more functions being controlled by the first controller differs from one or more functions being controlled by the second controller; and

wherein the outer surface of at least one of the controllers includes a second touch-sensitive area, such that the second touch-sensitive area is touched substantially by the ear when the controller is substantially worn in or by a human ear, the controller being arranged to send the corresponding control signal only if the second touch-sensitive area is touched.

2. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein each controller is arranged to fit substantially in a human ear concha, such that the touch-sensitive area is accessible for touching when the controller is fitted substantially in the concha.

3. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the controllers is arranged to detect a predefined temporal pattern in the touching of the touch-sensitive area, and to send the corresponding control signal in response to detecting the temporal pattern.

4 (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the outer surface of at least one controller includes a ~~second~~third touch-sensitive area, and is arranged to send a second control signal to the device if the second touch-sensitive area is touched.

6-8 (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) A method for remote control of a personal audio device, the method comprising:

wearing a pair of controllers substantially in or by a pair of human ears;
detecting a touching of a touch-sensitive area of each of the controllers; and
sending a control signal to the device in response to detecting the touching of each touch-sensitive area to control one or more functions of the personal audio system;

wherein at least one of the one or more functions being controlled by a first controller of the pair of controllers differs from one or more functions being controlled by a second controller of the pair of controllers; and

the outer surface of at least one of the controllers includes a second touch-sensitive area, such that the second touch-sensitive area is touched substantially by the ear when the controller is substantially worn in or by a human ear, and the sending of the control signal occurs only if the second touch-sensitive area is touched.

10. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, including a touch-detecting device ~~coupled to an other touch-sensitive area of at least one of the controllers, wherein the touch-detecting device that~~ measures internal resistance of a part of the human body that touches the ~~other~~ second touch-sensitive area.

11 (Canceled)

12. (Currently amended) The system of claim ~~10~~ 1, wherein ~~including a touch-detecting device that each controller~~ includes a disc that includes a transducer and a protruding part having ~~the~~ a touch-sensitive area, wherein the disc fits in a concha of an ear.

13. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the touch-sensitive area of at least one of the controllers detects ~~a~~ an amount of pressure with which the touch-sensitive area is touched.

14. (Currently amended) The system of claim ~~4~~ 1, wherein the second touch-sensitive area is positioned between the tragus and anti-tragus of the ear during use.

15-16 (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) A pair of earbuds coupled to a corresponding pair of channels of an audio device, each earbud comprising:

_____ a transducer that is configured to provide sound from the corresponding channel of the audio device, and

_____ a sensor that is configured to detect a touch of the earbud, and to provide an indication of the touch to the audio device, to facilitate control of the audio device based on the indications from the pair of earbuds;

_____ wherein at least one function being controlled by the indication of the touch from a first earbud of the pair of earbuds differs from each function being controlled by the indication of touch from a second earbud of the pair of earbuds, and ~~The pair of earbuds of claim 16, wherein at least one earbud includes an other sensor that is configured to detect the earbud being placed in an ear.~~

18. (Previously presented) The pair of earbuds of claim 17, wherein the at least one earbud is configured to provide the indication of the touch only if the other sensor detects the earbud being placed in the ear.

19. (Previously presented) The pair of earbuds of claim 17, wherein the at least one earbud is configured to provide an other indication to the audio device if the other sensor detects the earbud being placed in the ear.

20. (Currently amended) A device comprising:

a source of audio content material,

an audio amplifier that is configured to provide a pair of audio output signals to a corresponding pair of earbuds, and

a control element that is configured to receive indications of touchings of each earbud of the pair of earbuds, and to control the device based on these indications;

wherein at least one function being controlled by the indications of touchings from a first earbud of the pair of earbuds differs from each function being controlled by the indications of touchings from a second earbud of the pair of earbuds, and

the outer surface of at least one of the ear buds includes a second touch-sensitive area, such that the second touch-sensitive area is touched substantially by the ear when the ear bud is substantially worn in or by a human ear, the control element being configured to control the device only if the second touch-sensitive area is touched.

21. (Previously presented) The device of claim 20, wherein the pair of earbuds includes a first earbud and a second earbud, and the control element is configured to distinguish the indications of the touching of each earbud, and to control the device differently based on whether the first earbud or second earbud provides the indication of the touching.

22. (Previously presented) The device of claim 21, wherein the indication of touching of the first earbud causes a volume of the output signals to increase, and the indication of touching of the second earbud causes the volume to decrease.

23. (Previously presented) The device of claim 21, wherein the audio content is arranged for rendering in a sequence of audio segments, and the indication of touching of the first earbud causes a selection of a prior audio segment in the sequence for rendering, and the indication of touching of the second earbud causes a selection of a subsequent audio segment.

24 (Canceled)

25. (New) A personal audio system comprising:

a remotely controllable device,

a controller for remotely controlling the device by sending a control signal to the device,

wherein the controller includes an outer surface with a first touch-sensitive area, and is configured to:

be substantially worn in or by a human ear,

detect a touching of the touch-sensitive area when the controller is substantially worn in and by the human ear, and

send the control signal to control one or more functions of the personal audio system based on the touching.

26. (New) The personal audio system of claim 25, wherein the control signal causes the device to pause when the controller is removed from the ear, and to resume upon the touching of the touch-sensitive area when the controller is substantially worn in and by the human ear.

27. (New) The system of claim 25, including a second touch-sensitive area, wherein the controller is arranged to detect a predefined temporal pattern in the touching of the second touch-sensitive area, and to send an other control signal in response to detecting the temporal pattern.

28. (New) The system of claim 27, wherein the controller is configured to send the other control signal only when the controller is substantially worn in and by the human ear.

29. (New) The system of claim 27, wherein the second touch-sensitive area detects an amount of pressure with which the touch-sensitive area is touched.

30. (New) The system of claim 27, wherein the controller is arranged to fit substantially in a human ear concha, such that the first touch-sensitive area detects that the controller is fitted substantially in the concha, and the second touch-sensitive area is accessible for touching by a finger when the controller is fitted substantially in the concha.

31. (New) The system of claim 25, wherein the controller is configured to operate in a plurality of modes, each mode corresponding to a different audio application.

32. (New) The system of claim 31, wherein a first audio application includes a playback mode, and a second audio application includes a phone mode, and the controller is configured to pause the playback mode when the phone mode is entered, and to resume the playback mode when the phone mode is exited.

33. (New) The system of claim 32, wherein the controller controls when the phone mode is entered and exited.

34. (New) The system of claim 32, wherein the controller controls entering and exiting the phone mode based on a touching of the first touch-sensitive area.

35. (New) The system of claim 32, wherein the controller includes a second touch-sensitive area and controls entering and exiting the phone mode based on a touching of the second touch-sensitive area.